

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Census of Alexandria.

The Municipality have decided to retake the census of Alexandria.

Military examinations.

Military candidates successfully passed in the examinations held at the Citadel on the 13th, 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th instant.

Fatal scorpion sting.

On Wednesday afternoon, at Boula, a small native boy, whilst playing on a piece of waste ground, was stung by a scorpion, from which he died a short time after.

Attempted suicide.

A native living at Saïda Zoubi shot himself in the chest with a revolver yesterday morning. He has been taken to hospital in a serious condition, and the reason for his mad action is unknown.

Quintines.

By order of the Superior Council, dated at Constantinople on 25th instant, all exports from Port Said will be subjected to a 48 hours examination and disinfection in a lazaret of the Ottoman Empire.

Seizure of hashish.

A brigade of special police effected a successful raid on a smoking den, at Dar el Guinaine, kept by an Italian, named Giovanni Formaggio, and seized 70 grams of hashish. 35 smokers were arrested.

Subonic plague.

The following cases of subonic plague were recorded during the past 24 hours:—3 recoveries at Beni-Mazar, 1 death outside hospital at Beni-Mazar and 2 admissions and 6 deaths in hospital at Esch. 26 patients are still under treatment.

Alcohol in the Sudan.

The tax for the retail for the retail of alcoholic beverages in the Sudan has been fixed at P.T. 40 per men for the province of Khartoum, P.T. 30 for the Red Sea province and P.T. 15 for the Red Sea fiscal province. In all other provinces the charge has been fixed at P.T. 20.

Immorality in Cairo.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. A. Raffey, French consul, accompanied by Commandant Quartier, chief of the secret police, together with several savants from different consulates, visited the Mahmalieh, which recently received eight persons, who were unable to explain their presence in the buildings, had their names and nationalities noted and were placed under the supervision of the police.

Alleged dishonesty.

We are informed that a clerk of the Port and Lighthouses Administration, employed on the coast of Malindi, who recently tendered his resignation, has sent a report to the Finance Ministry alleging dishonesty against the captain in charge of the quay. The allegation has been supported by a gaffer and the Captain and Malindi have been placed under arrest, pending further enquiries.

An Egyptian Author.

Dr. Abdel-el-Bakri, whose literary fertility is enormous, has just published in Arabic five works which he has submitted to the Khedive, who heartily approved them. The names of these are: "Sahar el-India" (The Desert of India); "Ras el-Sudan" (The Head of the Sudan); "Beit el-Sultan el-Wahidi" (The House of the True); "Beit el-Sultan el-Wahidi" (The House of the True); "Education and Guidance"; and "Mustakbil el-Id" (The Future of Id). Amongst these new books, the "Fourteen of India" is a collection of the most important passages from Arabic literature and the "Future of Id" is an exceedingly well documented study.

Moslem on British Rule.

The Nawab Mohi-ud-Din, a well known Mahometan leader, who has been interviewed on the subject of the present unrest in India, said: "I consider that the British rule is essentially a disaster for the Empire. From what I have seen and heard, I feel convinced that the story, as told in the Press, represents but one-half of the real facts. Extreme measures are necessary if British rule is to remain predominant in India. Mahometans have no legal excuse for disaffection. It is the real desire of the British that alone saved the Mahometan Empire from dismemberment, but all the other races should be loyal for similar reasons. In the end, it is only the British rule that can save the interest of India from being blundered harmoniously, and the social and national welfare of the vast population of India be promoted."

CASINO SAN STEFANO

Dimanche 30 Juin 1907 à 11 heures du matin, concert Symphonique donné par l'Orchestre du Casino, composé de 40 musiciens dirigés par Monsieur Brucato. Le programme est très artistique et entièrement composé de morceaux nouveaux pour l'Egypte. Les programmes sont publiés dans les journaux. Programme d'aujourd'hui: Le début des artistes chanteurs engagés à Milan pour la saison. Parmi ceux-ci nous citons l'excellente soprano Mademoiselle Pitrillo.

Entrée au Casino, P.T. 5.

Carnet d'abonnement de 25 billets, P.T. 25.

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TRIAL LESSON FREE.

THE FINANCIAL CRISIS.

THE CASSA DI SCONTO.

The evaluation of the assets of the Cassa now being made by true commissioners from the four local banks, Anglo-Egyptian, Imperial Ottoman, Deutsche Orient and Comptoir National d'Escompte, will be ready, it is hoped, by tomorrow night. Up to now about 21,100,000 francs have been taken in, the balance of "débets" come to about thirteen per cent. On these "débets" it is quite possible that a certain percentage may be eventually collected. Harari Pasha is not representing Sir Ernest Cassel in the investigation now proceeding into the position of the Cassa at Alexandria. The role of Sir Ernest Cassel in the whole matter is quite unofficial, and the interest he has manifested in the situation is solely inspired by his connection with Egyptian affairs generally.

A STRANGE PANACEA.

Our excellent contemporary "La Réforme," in its issue of Wednesday under the heading of "La Banque d'Etat et les Bienes Lieux," propounds as a solution for the present, and as a panacea against a future monetary crisis, a recourse to a chemical or alchemical process, amounting financially and so dangerous to the credit of the country if it were seriously entertained, that we may be thankful that in their financial advisers the Government possess men of ripe experience and sound judgment. We must confess a feeling of disappointment when we find so important an organ of public instruction as our esteemed comrade, notwithstanding the lessons of the crisis now happily passing away, and we must warn the readers of the danger in listening to such crude proposals.

Our contemporary starts with the debatable premise that Egypt possesses insufficient gold for the enterprises which she has undertaken for the past few years, and he then quotes Mr. Alfred Newmarch's plan for larger gold reserves in France as a justification for demanding more gold for Egypt. Although we do not see the parallel between the two countries in the matter we think it well to reply that Mr. Newmarch's plan is not a panacea, but a means in the form of gold from France, is that the value of rents and house stocks have become depreciated; however, he fails to show any diminution in the income of holders of stock. He cannot think of gold as a means of credit to circulate freely. Confine it and it will either burst its barriers or it will stagnate and create financial malaria; its flow can no more be impeded by ill-considered legislation than the waves of the Atlantic by the brow of Mt. Pelion. It is a fact that we do more than refer to the great Secretariat General in Paris many years ago in refutation of Mr. Newmarch's theories of hoarding gold.

Anyhow, we fail to understand our contemporary's complaint of the gold being imported for some years past has been insufficient for the enterprise of the country. We hold on the contrary that it has been more than sufficient and that speculators have been attempting to pour the proverbial gold into the Egyptian market, but that the inevitable result of the crisis of the last few weeks has not arisen from scarcity of gold but from want of confidence. Destroy confidence or credit at any time and the result will be that the market will be flooded with gold, and the value of gold will appreciate fearfully in purchasing power. Restore confidence and the operation will be reversed.

Now the customs returns prove that the imports of gold during the past three years have been considerably in excess of the exports, and clear indication of a large addition to the stock of yellow metal in the country. But when the question is asked "Where has the surplus gone?" we are gravely told that it has been exported for ornamental gold for native souks or hoarded under ground.

Allowing that some considerable percentage has been thus absorbed, we incline to the belief that a large amount remains in the vaults of the banks, where it has always been accumulated, furnished the bankers advanced to their customers but when the depression came, the position changed: the banks called in their advances, and the gold was no longer at the disposal of their customers. The banks, when it has always been admitted, does not admit of doubt; in their simplicity they leaned on the support of the banks which has pierced them to the quick.

We pass over the proposal of our contemporary that the Government should issue public lands—authorise the National Bank of Egypt Ltd., to make a further emission of notes for the requirements of the country. Article No. 2 of the Statutes of the National Bank stipulates that each reserve of one half and one half securities taken at par against the notes issued, and this article it is suggested to repeal or amend.

We venture to assert that a more dangerous and mischievous proposition could not possibly be suggested. It is a well known fact that the National Bank of Egypt must be preserved inviolable. The natives of the country are gradually being educated to the issue of bank notes and no greater disaster could befall Egypt than anything calculated in the slightest manner to even threaten their credit.

Our contemporary asks whether it is prudent to leave the financing of the coming cotton crop to the moment when it will arrive at market. Decidedly not, but we imagine that this matter may be safely left in the hands of those representative firms who have hitherto managed the shipment of the crop.

In conclusion our contemporary asks if its suggestion, "Is it possible?" Our reply is no.

unequivocal negative. "Is it legal?" Certainly not, nor is it ever likely to become so while E.H.B. is Consul General. It is the responsible adviser to H.H. the Khedive.

A DRASTIC REMEDY.

"All Laws" makes a really remarkable proposal—the liquidation of every company that has not effected anything. Our Nationalist contemporary remarks:—
Veterans are unanimous in supporting the opinion we expressed since the commencement of the present crisis that it is necessary for the shareholders of every company recently formed, which has absorbed great sums of money, without effecting any obvious profit or carrying out any enterprise, to demand that it should be liquidated, so as to know where the money has gone to.

THE KHEDIVÉ

On his arrival at Constantinople the Khedive was received by two aides-de-camp of the Sultan, and his Imperial Majesty afterwards went on board to meet the Khedive.

THE MEDITERRANEAN FLEET.

ARRIVAL AT ALEXANDRIA.

The Mediterranean Fleet was sighted off Alexandria Monday last, eight o'clock this morning, and soon after nine they were off Bas el-Tin Light-house, where the "Queen," "Venerable," "Prince of Wales," and "Irresistible" anchored, the "Lancaster," "Suffolk," and "Barham" coming into harbour. At midday Admiral Sir Charles Druce and H.R.H. Prince Louis Battenberg called on Mustafa Pasha Ismail at the Governorate. On its arrival the fleet was greeted by the customary salute from the guns of Port Said.

PROGRAMME OF ENTERTAINMENTS.

SATURDAY, 29th June.—Gymkhana on Sporting Club Grounds. Hours and events according to programme.

MONDAY, 1st July.—Cricket Match commencing at 2 o'clock. Play v. Alexandria. Cricket Ground opposite the British Consulate. Players to launch at the Union Club and to take tea on the ground.

Khedivial Yacht Club "At Home" to officers of the fleet, 4.30 to 6 p.m. Sail Race. Motor launches are coming more and more into use at this port, both the Canal Company and the Egyptian authorities, as well as the various shipping agents, employing them for communicating with ships in the harbour and Canal.

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PORT SAID.

TRADE DURING PAST YEAR.

The report of Mr. Cameron, H.B.M.'s Consul General at Port Said, on the trade and commerce of that port during 1906, has just been issued by the Foreign Office, from which we extract the following particulars.

Import duties.
Import duties have been reduced from 8 to 4 per cent. The principal items of duty on charcoal, timber, petroleum, cattle, sheep and goats, and on frozen meat.

Coal.
The coal imports in 1906 amounted to 1,355,718 tons, or some 87,000 tons more than in 1905. Of this some 1,241,000 tons were supplied to ships in transit, and about 114,600 tons taken inland.

Of the 114,600 tons sent inland, about half was dust and small coal, and half North Country large coal. It was chiefly carried by sailing barges either to Ismailia or to Damietta. Only about 10,000 tons were sent by rail, as it was necessary to transport it from the quay to the station, but now that sidings have been made from the main line to the quays, it will be interesting to note the development of the transport of coal into the interior by rail.

Exports.

The total exports from Port Said have fallen from 101,060 L.E. in 1905 to 290,176 L.E. in 1906, owing principally to the decrease in the export of cigarettes to Germany which has hitherto been the chief customer and distributing centre for the Continent.

Cigarettes.

Out of a total export trade in cigarettes from Egypt of 590 metric tons, valued at 405,855 L.E., Port Said exports 212,500 tons, valued at 120,122 L.E., Alexandria exports 291 tons (232,855 L.E.) and Suez 39 tons (24,856 L.E.).

Of the 200 tons from Port Said, 50 tons were to the United Kingdom, 64 tons to India and 112 tons to Germany for distribution on the Continent.

The total value of frozen meat brought to this harbour from Australia and New Zealand, for transit or export, was 56,574 L.E. in 1906 as against 51,000 L.E. in 1905 and 19,000 L.E. in 1904. Until recently the meat was supplied almost entirely for the use of ships in transit, but a very promising trade has sprung up with the interior, and will most probably increase in importance owing to the fluctuating supply of stock from Syria.

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years ago, the superficies of the vertical profile having been increased from 320 to 850 square metres in the ordinary channel, and to 740 square metres in the numerous gorges or crossing places, the dredging being so carried out as to exceed the limits originally agreed upon.

From 1898 to 1904, owing to the increasing size of ships, larger gates were begun, some 20 metres in length, of 8 miles, each having an effective length of 800 yards with approaches of 328 yards at either end. At each gate the bottom width of the Canal is 50 yards, the width at the water-level over 100 yards, the depth of the gate itself being 31 feet.

Taking the Canal as a whole, its width on the water-level in the northern half is from 100 to 120 yards, and in the southern half from 80 to 100 yards.

Draught.

In 1902 the maximum draught was raised from 25 feet 7 inches to 26 feet 3 inches (8 metres). On January 1, 1906, the maximum was raised to 27 feet (8 metres 23 centims.).

Canal dues.

The original tariff for laden ships was 10 fr. per ton in 1869.

This was raised to 13 fr. in 1874, but was reduced to 12 fr. per ton from 1877 to 9 fr. in 1893, and to 8 fr. in 1903. On January 1, 1906, the tariff

Sharia el Cherifein N° 1 près la National Bank, LE CAIRE.